

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration of the outstanding office action is respectfully requested.

The Office has rejected claims 1-3, 6-10, 12-13, 15, 16-18 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 5,903,306 to Heckendorn et al (Heckendorn) in view of US Patent No. 5,398,753 to Obrejanu et al (Obrejanu), claims 4-6, 11, 14, 19 and 21-30, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Heckendorn in view of Obrejanu further in view of US Patent No. 5,394,208 to Campbell (Campbell).. The Office asserts that Heckendorn '306 a housing and an imaging device arranged within the housing at Fig. 7, abstract, col. 2, lines 25-28, col. 3, lines 5-20 and a motor arranged within the housing at Fig. 9, col. 1, lines 65+ and col. 12, lines 36+). The Office asserts that Heckendorn fails to teach a fluid powered motor, but asserts Obrejanu at col. 2, lines 17-29 teaches a fluid powered motor by fluid pressure generated by the electrical generator. The Office also asserts that the combination of Heckendorn and Obrejanu fail to teach an eye portion substantially free from contaminants, but asserts Campbell in the abstract teaches maintenance free viewing through a specially designed aperture for a clean and clear field of view for the lens.

Heckendorn, Obrejanu, and Campbell, alone or in combination, do not disclose or suggest, "an electrical generator operatively coupled to and powering the imaging device, the electrical generator being driven by and operably coupled to the fluid-powered motor and arranged within the housing" as recited in claim 1, "generating power from a flow of the fluid . . . powering the imaging device with the generated power" as recited in claim 9, "an electrical generator operatively coupled to the fluid-powered motor, the generator being driven by the fluid-powered motor to power the imaging device" as recited in claim 15, "generating power from a first portion of a flow of the fluid . . . powering an imaging device with the generated power" as recited in claim 21, or "a fluid-powered motor arranged within the body, the fluid-powered motor having a fluid inlet for connection to a suitable source of fluid and having a fluid outlet to discharge the fluid . . . a generator arranged within the body and operatively coupled to the fluid-powered motor, the generator supplying electrical power to the imaging device as a function of a fluid flow passing through the fluid-powered motor" as recited in claim 25.

As the Office has acknowledged, Heckendorn does not disclose or suggest a fluid powered motor operatively coupled to and driving a generator to supply electrical power

to an imaging device as a function of a fluid flow passing through the fluid-powered motor or generating power from a flow of the fluid and powering the imaging device with the generated power. In fact, as illustrated in FIG. 1 and disclosed at col. 4, lines 37-44, Heckendorn discloses the use of wiring disposed in flexible conduit 116, in coil 128 and in feeder conduit 130 which carries control signals and power from a remote control unit to the camera assembly 200. As discussed in paragraph 2 in the background of the above-identified patent application, in some types of environments the use of cables to deliver power to a camera assembly is undesirable.

Contrary to the Office's assertions Obrejanu does not teach or suggest a fluid powered motor operatively coupled to and driving a generator to supply electrical power to an imaging device as a function of a fluid flow passing through the fluid-powered motor or generating power from a flow of the fluid and powering the imaging device with the generated power. The Office's attention is respectfully directed to col. 2, lines 23-25 in Obrejanu, which states, "a fluid motor powered by fluid pressure generated by the electric motor and hydraulic pump." Additionally, the Office's attention is respectfully directed to col. 3, lines 13-17 in Obrejanu which states, "The electric motor 20 and hydraulic pump 22 are adapted to generate fluid pressure for driving a fluid motor which comprises the force generating means of the retrieving tool." Accordingly, Obrejanu discloses an electric motor and pump which are used to generate fluid pressure to drive a fluid motor, not a fluid motor which uses a flowing fluid to drive a generator to generate power to operate an imaging device. Further, even if the teachings of Heckendorn are considered in view of Obrejanu, the cited references would still require the delivery of electric power to drive the fluid power motor which would necessitate the undesirable use of cables to deliver the power signal and none of the cited references disclose or suggest the use of a fluid powered motor to drive a generator which generates power for an imaging device. Like Heckendorn and Obrejanu, Campbell, alone or in combination with the other cited references does not teach or suggest the fluid power motor used to drive the generator as claimed.

As discussed in paragraph 2 in the above-identified patent application, "In some applications . . . a source of electrical power may not be readily available at the site of the furnace, or it may not be desirable to have unnecessary power cables in such environment. However, compressed air is generally available at various locations." Additionally, as discussed in paragraphs 4 and 24 of the above-identified patent application, the present invention provides a fluid powered motor that utilizes an available fluid source at

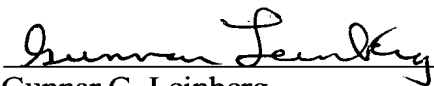
the location to generate power to operate and cool the imaging device and to keep the eye of the imaging device clean. Accordingly, with the present invention the fluid power motor is powered by available fluid, not another motor or electrical power cables, and the fluid powered motor drives a generator which generates power for an imaging device. As a result, the present invention is particularly useful in hazardous, contaminated, and other harsh environments.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Office is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 1, 9, 15, 21, and 25. Since claims 2-8 depend from and contain the limitations of claim 1, claims 10-14 depend from and contain the limitations of claim 9, claims 16-20 depend from and contain the limitations of claim 15, claims 22-24 depend from and contain the limitations of claim 21, and claims 26-30 depend from and contain the limitations of claim 25, they are distinguishable over the cited references and patentable in the same manner as claims 1, 9, 15, 21, and 25.

In view of all of the foregoing, applicant submits that this case is in condition for allowance and such allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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